UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/26901
20 December 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 16 DECEMBER 1993 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to resolution 881 (1993) adopted by the Security Council on 4 November 1993. In paragraph 5 of that resolution the members of the Council decided that the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) will not be extended unless I reported to them substantive progress towards implementing measures aimed at establishing a lasting peace. In paragraph 6 of that resolution the members also requested me to take planning steps which would enable, upon a further decision by the Council, prompt deployment of additional personnel within the originally authorized strength of UNOMIG.

The Memorandum of Understanding, signed by the parties to the conflict on 1 December 1993 in Geneva and in the presence of representatives of the United Nations, the Russian Federation and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, manifests, in my opinion, encouraging progress towards lasting peace in the area. Therefore I am seeking from the Security Council a contingent authority to deploy up to 50 additional United Nations Military Observers, together with a minimal number of civilian support staff.

It would be my intention to deploy 10 of these additional observers within two weeks of the Council's approval of the contingent authority requested and the remainder as expeditiously as possible. UNOMIG, thus reinforced, would be better placed to ascertain the actual conditions on the ground and to plan and prepare for a further expansion beyond the 50, should the next round of negotiations scheduled to begin on 11 January 1994 warrant it.

I believe that this interim reinforcement of UNOMIG will also serve as a confidence-building measure by demonstrating the support of the international community for the efforts of the parties to reach a solution to this destructive conflict.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

93-72039 (E) 201293